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ABSTRACT

This bibliography lists 115 citations for thesauri most frequently used by members of the Special Libraries Association (SLA) Documentation Division. Entries are arranged alphabetically by author/corporate author, followed by title, imprint and/or alternate source of availability if known, date, pagination, and subject index terms assigned according to the 1975 edition of the Library of Congress Subject Headings. A subject/corporate author/initialism index is included to provide additional points of access. (JPF)

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THESAURI USED BY SLA DOCUMENTATION DIVISION MEMBERS

by

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The continual growth of library collections has created a need for improved means of using those materials, and a frequent topic seems to be the locating or developing of subject thesauri. Whether addressing a collection of information through printed indexes, card catalogs, or via a computer terminal, librarians must rely upon various tools to fully understand the terminology used in any given field. Thesauri assist in understanding fully the relationships between various terms as well as linking synonyms. With the increase in both locally developed and commercially available data bases, the demand for more thesauri is also increasing; such tools are especially valuable for free-text searching and for data bases using uncontrolled vocabularies.

The SLA Documentation Division, with its inherent concern for access to information, realized a need for librarians' awareness of existing thesauri. Due to the great expense and energy involved in developing a thesaurus for accessing a local collection, few can actually undertake such a task. However, it is also known that some libraries have produced very valuable thesauri for their collections.

In 1976, under the direction of Betty Jane Third, Documentation Division President, and Toni Carbo Bearman, Project Committee Chairperson, a special committee was named to compile a bibliography of thesauri. Since it was apparent that the resources would not allow for a comprehensive listing of all existing thesauri, a survey was conducted of the Division membership to determine which thesauri they used.

Realizing the broad diversity of subject areas of the Division membership, the committee hoped to learn of most major thesauri being used today. Two basic objectives were established:

1) to compile a list of commercially available thesauri, and

2) to publicize locally-developed thesauri which may have previously been unavailable or at least unknown.

Such a bibliography could thus assist librarians in locating thesauri which they might need and also eliminate the time-consuming work of duplicating existing ones. While it is realized that an available thesaurus might not meet all needs for a specialized collection, it is more efficient to build from an existing one.

While this bibliography is in no way considered a comprehensive list of thesauri, it seems to reflect those most commonly used today. Additional sources of thesauri, however, are the following:

Bibliography of Thesauri and Controlled Vocabularies. The Hague: International Federation of Documentation; in preparation.

Denison, Barbara, comp. Selected materials in classification, a bibliography. New York: Special Libraries Association; 1968.

Kutten, A., ed. Thesauri bibliography. Haifa: Technion - Israel Institute of Technology; 1975.

The Bibliography frequently relies upon the bibliographic information supplied by the Division members since it was not possible for the compilers to have physical access to all the titles. The following conventions apply:

-if available through a source other than the publisher, that information is included if known;

-when written in a language other than English, that language is noted;

-the citation is followed by subject terms assigned according to the 1975 edition of the Library of Congress Subject Headings;

-a subject/corporate author/initialism index provides additional points of access.

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   Engineering

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   Chemical engineering
   Chemistry

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   Petroleum

4. American Psychological Association. Psychological Abstracts Information Services. Thesaurus of psychological terms. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association; 1973.
   Psychology

5. American Society for Metals. ASM Thesaurus of metallurgical terms. 2nd ed. Metals Park, OH: American Society for Metals; 1976. 207 p.
   Metallurgy
   Metals

6. Backer, Stanley; Valko, E., eds. Thesaurus of textile terms covering fibrous materials and processes. 2nd ed. Cambridge, MA: Massachusetts Institute of Technology; 1969. 448 p.
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   Education

8. Beck, Carl; Dym, Eleanor D.; McKechnie, J. Thomas, comps. Political science thesaurus. Washington, DC: American Political Science Association; 1975. 463 p.
   Political Science

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   Information Science
   Library science

10. Biosciences Information Service of Biological Abstracts. A guide to the vocabulary of biological literature. 4th ed. Philadelphia, PA: Biosciences Information Service of Biological Abstracts; 1973. 126 p.
    Biology
    Life sciences
    Natural history

11. Boldt, Roger. Thesaurus used in the program in urban and regional planning. Monticello, IL: Council of Planning Librarians; 1971 June. 55 p. Council of Planning Librarians Exchange Bibliography 195. Available from: Mary Vance, editor, P. O. Box 229, Monticello, IL 61856.
    Cities and towns

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    Adolescent psychology
    Child study
    Exceptional children
    Problem children

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    Information science
    Library science

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    Education

16. Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique. Thesaurus polymeres; liste alphabetique, hierarchie des descripteurs, indexe alphabetique de la liste hierarchique. (Corporate authors: Centre d'Etude des Matieres Plastiques, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Centre Scientifique et Technique du Batiment, Societe Nationale des Petroles d'Aquitaine--ATO Plastique.) 1st ed. Paris: Centre de Documentation, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique; 1973. v.p. In French.
    Plastics
    Polymers and polymerization

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    Chemistry

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    Advertising
    Communication
    Marketing
    Merchandising

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    Cities and towns

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    Refuse and refuse disposal

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    Copper

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    Child study
    Exceptional children

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    Audio-visual materials

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    Patents

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    Finance

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    Cities and towns

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    Aged
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    Senior Citizens

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    Education

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    Hospitals

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    Law

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    Motor vehicles
    Traffic safety

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    Traffic engineering

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    Automatic control
    Computers
    Electric engineering

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Nuclear energy
Atomic energy

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Employee benefits
Industrial relations
Personnel management

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Atomic energy
Isotopes
Nuclear energy

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Psychology

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Medicine

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Population

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Tissue culture

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Masers

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    Population

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    Vacuum physics

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    Exceptional children
    Special education

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    Computers

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    Transportation

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Railroads
Transportation

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Newspapers

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Paper making
Pulp mills

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Geology

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Economic development
Social change

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Cement
Concrete

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Accounting
Auditing

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Engineering

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Cities and towns
Urban environments

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Mining engineering

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Legislation

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Rehabilitation

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Information science

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Wildlife management

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Cities and towns
Urban environments

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Railroads

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Industry

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Water resources

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Science and technology

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    Biology

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    Child study

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Hypertension

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Subject headings

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Astronauts
Space flight

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Crime and criminals
Law enforcement

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Medicnie

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Medicine

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Water resources

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Sociology

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Cultural development

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Municipal government

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Computers

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Urban environment

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